

Pikeville. W. Va. Co. M? Oct. 24, 1850

My dear Booth.

I rec^d yours of the 23^d and was pleased to hear from you as also of the receipt of the package of Mass. I hope you will arrange it soon & return it, so that I may copy it. I have gotten myself into working trim and can do it very quickly. I have been wishing to write you for the last two weeks but I have been so busy & so unwell that I could not until now obey my inclination. With all my industry, the Laboratory work progresses very slowly & the delay in obtaining results worries me very much. I work from 6½ h. m to 5½ P. M. and study from 7½ to 10 P. M., but notwithstanding this incessant labor & all my system I find it impossible to hasten matters when I have to be master of all work. However I shall soon have completed 7 analyses, in the most accurate & scientific manner; & hope with the experience which I have acquired to finish 8 more by the end of the year. Thirty six will be a good years work for a rapid operator. I have no time for private jobs of which I might obtain many.

Wallbach will obtain our pay by the 1st and I will immediately forward it to you. He has been advancing me for disbs, for my purposes, from his own private funds.

I have not heard from Estlin & therefore your commendation of me may not have had its merited (!!) weight.

I am glad to hear that you are experimenting with the new processes & hope your results will speedily & satisfactorily ensure so that the Director may issue his mandate to the President for that \$25000. I wrote to McCallish

this morning, as follows:—

Dear Sir.

I write to inform you that Mr. J. H. North has and will have my assent to any action he may think proper to take, with regard to the sale, to the U. S. Government, of his patent for refining gold. Believing in the maxim ~~that~~ of "a bird in hand is" & as an interested party, I think it prudent & advisable to accept the \$25,000 at once rather than delay and expose the loss of it upon the mere hope of obtaining a larger sum. Here we have a certain amount guaranteed, let us take it; and, if after trial of the new processes, either should prove as desirable & economical as anticipated, we can present a claim for additional compensation. We thus avoid all possibility of having our labor in vain, while we retain a reasonable chance of obtaining a liberal reward from another Congress. I am decidedly in favor of the sale at \$25,000 and hope that all concerned are or soon will be of the same opinion.

C. M.

The above I think will suit your wishes in the matter. I think you had better hurry up the cables or too much time may elapse. I believe with you, Mr. Jones, that Mr. C's name sickened the project in the house & I ^{also} believe ^{that} without your prefixing it would ~~not~~ have been killed before its time of natural death. You are mistaken however in attributing its failure, partially, to the demand of a pro-rata instead of a round sum, for the invention. You say it was crushed by other names;—were there any other, but yours & Mr. C's, when it reached the house.

If you will read the amendment as it passed, carefully, you will observe that it does not stipulate the period of time for which the patent is to be purchased. This is a loop hole in our favor if you chose to avail yourself of it.

With regard to documents affecting my interest in the patent, they have become unnecessary since the passage of the amendment in its present form. I only wanted them to protect me against parties, in whom I had lost confidence, in case the House had ratified the original proposition. If however you prefer a paper, you can write it as you think proper in the form of a letter and in terms to suit yourself.

My address before the Mechanic's Institute went off successfully.—there were about 2000 present. It will be published in pamphlet form & you will receive a copy of the learned & eloquent discourse.

With regards to your Mother & self

Yours truly, as ever

C. M.

October 24th 1850

C. Moorfit, Pickersville,
Md.

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L. Booth,
Pine St.,
Philadelphia.

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